

Farmers' Department.

The Housewife's Hand Book.

FURNITURE.—Bedsteads should be taken apart at least at the fall cleaning, washed thoroughly in the crevices subject to the attack of bugs, and when dry, coated with corrosive sublimate dissolved in alcohol, mercury mixed in beaten white of egg, or, for common coarse furniture, fill all the crevices not likely to come in contact with the bed clothes, with strong common brown soap.

Then rosewood, mahogany, or any fine furniture, must be freed from dust and wiped clean of fly specks or other soil, and after rubbed over with very fine rotten stone mixed with olive oil, and when dry, rubbed off with a silk cloth. If your fine furniture needs varnish, get a first rate professional hand. But, with good cabinet makers, varnish and suitable brushes, for common furniture, you may do the job quite well yourself. Be sure to have the article clean when you begin; have the varnish thin; put on a small quantity at a time, and rub it in well, following the grain of the wood.

If you live out of reach of a cabinet maker's aid you may repair and varnish up considerably, if you have patience and skill. If a piece of veneering is off, cut off the edges of the break smoothly, fit in a piece of veneer exactly, (the grain running with that of the furniture), paste it in with glue, and tack it in with a number of common pins slightly. When the glue hardens, draw out the pins, and, with a piece of glass, scrape the newly joined edges perfectly even. Now, if the piece of furniture is much scarred and abused, scrape off all the old varnish, with glass carefully; then rub it with coarse and fine sand-paper successively, until smooth as satin; proceed to varnish, and you will be astonished at the result of your labor.

A fine feather brush and soft silk cloth should be used daily on fine furniture. The dust should be beaten out of the cushions with the hand; brocade or hair cloth wiped with a clean cloth; velvet with a worsted plush roll, or better still with the hand only.

MARBLE.—All marble should be washed commonly with luke-warm water and a sponge; grease spots or stains can be removed by washing with salts of tartar or repeated applications of fine chalk.

IRON STOPS may be removed by rubbing with a piece of lemon, and washing after with cold water.

Alabaster should be washed with a brush thoroughly with aqua fortis in clear water—(an ounce to a half a pint)—then rinsed in cold water and set in the sun to dry.

INK STOPS on wooden furniture may be removed by rubbing on oil of vitrol mixed with two parts of soft water. The white marks from heat may be removed by rubbing first with oil, and after with alcohol, or with spirits of hartshorn.

UNVARNISHED MAHOGANY, or any other furniture wood, may be polished several ways, and by frequent rubbing kept very nice.

A piece of beeswax as large as an egg, half as much rosin, melted in a pint of spirits of turpentine, spread over a table evenly, and when cold well rubbed with a soft cloth, looks well.

A gill of spirits of turpentine, one of sweet oil, and a pint of sweet milk, makes an excellent polish—well rubbed after—or take a cake of pure beeswax, rub it all over the surface you wish to polish; then wrap a linen cloth over a warm smoothing iron, and rub it over the table until the wax is evenly spread; then with a woolen cloth rub until smooth and bright. We used to spend much time in an old pioneer house, the best rooms of which were finished with black walnut, and kept, with this polish only, as bright as mirrors.

PICTURE FRAMES, gilt ornaments, etc., and the glass over pictures and engravings, should be cleaned with whitening as directed in previous receipts for cleaning glass. Water may injure both picture and frame. The gilding should be brushed or wiped very softly and carefully.

OIL PAINTINGS may be wiped with luke-warm water and a soft sponge, and dried with a soft cloth. The gilding cannot be cleaned by any trials I have made, and I have had woeful experience in trying.

The directions for varnishing polished steel gilding, etc., I have found invariably to injure instead of preventing defacement. These articles may be repaired in cities, but country people, who are cut off from such resources, must be more careful. All such articles, before the season of flies and dust, should be covered with some transparent muslin. Yellow oil tarlatan looks best over yellow gilding, as it is hardly perceptible. Pictures should never hang over the fire, as smoke and heat discolor and crack the painting.

Bronze cannot be improved, and can be kept clean by washing in warm water and wiping dry. The glass pendants, shades, etc., belonging to lights and vases, can be cleaned in soap suds—cold, unless there is grease to remove—rinsed in clear water, drained dry, and rubbed with buckskin or any old silk handkerchief.

VESTIEN BLINDS should be brushed between the slats every morning, and occasionally cleaned as other painted work, care being taken not to discolor the trimmings with water.

OLD BLINDS must be stretched out on a table, held firmly and washed quickly with mild tepid soap suds, and wiped dry.

LINEN BLINDS, chintz muslin and lace curtains are washed, subject to the same rules for similar articles found under the head of the laundry.

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

A Good Book.—The *Sharbrooke* (C. E.) Gazette says that Capt. Beckett, of that town, has just imported a Spanish Merino buck from Vermont, purchased by H. & L. Coburn, of Cabot.

The fleece sheared from the buck last week weighed 19 3/4 pounds; and is, the Editor says, as fine a specimen of wool as he ever saw. The *Gazette* adds:

"Vermont, at present, beats the world in fine wool. The Spanish Merino is a very hardy breed, admirably fitted to cross with the native breed of Canada. The *York* is so thick in the wool of Capt. Beckett's buck, that it has almost the appearance of a black sheep, yet when washed, the wool is a beautiful yellowish white. Farmers who wish to improve their breed of sheep, would do well to examine this buck."

WEIGHT OF GRAIN.—An English quarter of corn is eight bushels, without regard to weight. An English sack of corn contains four bushels, and two sacks make one quarter. A person going into Mark Lane Commercial Exchange (where the writer has been many times,) would see the corn factors at their stands with their twenty to fifty samples of corn, either in bags or spread out before them, without regard to weight, selling only by the quarter; of course the heavier the grain the more it will bring, as in all other kinds of merchandise the finer the article the better the price. In England the word grain is seldom used, except when growing in the field, and a Corn Exchange in market means a place for the sale of all kinds of food for horses and cattle, wheat or barley being seldom sold in the markets. Farmers growing wheat either sell to the millers who become the flour factors, or they have it ground on their own account. For all the barley grown in that country, there are brewers enough to buy it. There is considerable difference in the way goods are sold in England and America. For instance, grain is sold here by weight, there by measure. Bread here by the loaf or dozen, there by the quarter or four pounds; there green peas, beans, plums, pears, cherries, currants, and most other fruits, by the measure; here by weight, and so with many other articles of produce the system of weight and measures is reversed.—*Sat. Bee.*

KEEPING EGGS.—A subscriber writes that eggs may be kept a year in pickle made as follows: "One pound of unslacked lime, one pound of rock salt, and six quarts of water. It should stand one night to settle and cool, then stirred and turned on the eggs, which should be packed the small end down. Care should be taken to select those with thick shells, and which are fresh. They must be kept in wood or stone. I have kept them one year perfectly good." Another subscriber recommends lime water for keeping eggs. Use a peck of unslacked lime to forty gallons of water. Draw off the clear water and add to it two quarts of salt. Keep the eggs in the water, in a cool place.—*Boston Cultivator.*

LEAP YEAR.—The ladies' leap year privilege took its origin in the following manner: By an ancient act of Scottish Parliament, passed in the year 1226, it was "ordained that during the reign of our most blessed Majesty Margaret, like maiden ladies, of both high and low estate, shall have liberty to speak ye man she likes. Gif he refuses to take her to his wife, he shall be mulet in the sum of an hundred pounds or less, as his estate may be, except and always gif he can make it appear that he be trothit to another woman, then he shall be free."

On examining into the affairs of a London bankrupt recently, his creditors discovered that his wife had over fifty-two yards of silk in one dress. As the journalist says, "Comment is unnecessary."

When once a concealment or deceit has been practiced in matters where all should be fair and open, confidence can never be restored any more than you can restore the white bloom to the grape or plum that you have once pressed in your hand.

A French writer has said to dream gloriously, you must act gloriously while you are awake; and to bring angels down to converse with you in your sleep, you must labor in the cause of virtue during the day.

D. FARRAR, Agent for

WHEELER & WILSON'S SEWING MACHINE.

Office in Farrar Brothers New Building, 24 floor, St. Albans, Vt.

UNDERTAKERS' NOTICE.—I keep on hand—

CARRIAGE SHOP, LAKE STREET, ST. ALBANS, VT.

A supply of

COFFINS, CASKETS, &C.,

Which, for design and finish, are unequalled in this country. Also, a fine assortment of **COFFIN TRIMMINGS**, consisting of Fringes, Screens, Tacks, Name Plates, Handles, &c., which I will sell as low as I can afford.

Also, a new and splendid **HEARSE**, with which I will serve those who desire.

Having had my efforts for the proper interment of the dead will be appreciated by the people of St. Albans and vicinity. I respectfully solicit their patronage.

L. BINGHAM, St. Albans, March 29, 1864.

O' HAND YET.

The subscriber begs leave to inform the citizens of this place and vicinity, that he is thankful for the patronage he has given him, and wishes the continuance of the same.

He keeps on hand a large and complete assortment of

"FASHIONABLE FURNITURE,"

consisting in part of rich Sofas, Tete-a-Tetes, Lounges; Easy Rock, and Parlor Chairs, finished in oil; cane and wood seat Chairs of every variety; Couches, Bed, and Extension Tables; marble-top Chamber Sets of black walnut, finished in oil; Hair, Hunk, and Excelsior Mattresses; Feather, What-Nots, Hat Trees, &c., &c., &c.

A full assortment of

COMMON FURNITURE,

BEDSTEADS AND TUCKER'S SPRING BED Bottoms, Bureaus, Tables, Sinks, &c.; Arch-top, Fancy, and Plain Mirrors; Rosewood, Gilt, and Black Walnut Mouldings, of every variety of styles, for

PICTURE FRAMES;

CHILDREN'S CARRIAGES, &c.

H. LIVINGSTON, St. Albans, Vt., March 19, 1864.

JUST RECEIVED,

SPRING AND SUMMER STYLES

—OF—

LADIES' HATS AND BONNETS

A FINE ASSORTMENT, at

MARVIN'S.

THE UNITED STATES CHRISTIAN COMMISSION would inform the patriotic, philanthropic and Christian men and women of the country, of its work and its wants.

It cares for the body and the soul, and it does this by the aid of the Bible, and by the aid of the pen and the press, and by the aid of the hand and the foot, and by the aid of the heart and the head, and by the aid of the tongue and the ear, and by the aid of the eye and the nose, and by the aid of the skin and the hair, and by the aid of the bone and the muscle, and by the aid of the blood and the nerve, and by the aid of the life and the death, and by the aid of the resurrection and the glory.

In the hospitals, in the battle-fields, and in the camps of the strong and brave, the delegates are welcomed by surgeons, officers, and men, and their labors have, in the judgment of those well-informed, saved thousands of lives, and been blessed to the conversion of thousands of souls, besides raising the morale of the army and strengthening the links that bind the soldier to his home.

It has the confidence of the Government and the facilities from that military exigencies will allow.

Its affairs are managed by business men who give their services, railroads and telegrams are free to it; the Bible Society gives it publications; but religious reading matter must be purchased, and the demand is far beyond the ability of the Commission to meet it.

The wants of the Commission are men to go on delegations; men to be distributed by train—men to purchase reading matter.

The aim is to have a large balance in the Treasury, but to do at all times what the current contributions shall allow, there being no extensive and complicated system of agencies that a change would seriously affect.

Money and stores may be sent to George H. Smith, 10 Bank Street, Philadelphia.

In New England, money may be sent to Joseph Smith, 112 Tremont Street, Boston; to L. P. Rowland, 5 Tremont Temple, Boston; to L. P. Rowland, 5 Tremont Temple, Boston.

GEORGE H. SMITH, Executive Committee.

HENRY M. STEVENS, GEORGE F. BOUGHTON, SHELDON S. BEEHAN, JAMES A. GILMAN, GEORGE G. HUNT, JETHRO PARSONS, St. Albans, Vt., March 18, 1864.

DON'T FAIL TO READ THIS!

Coffee! Coffee!! Coffee!!!

THE EAST INDIA COFFEE CO.,

154 Reade Street (three doors from Greenwich Street), N. Y., call universal attention to

Kent's East India Coffee

has all the flavor of OLD GOVERNMENT JAVA and is half the price; and also that

KENT'S EAST INDIA COFFEE

has twice the strength of Java, or any other coffee whatever, and when brewed in the usual class hotels and steamboats, the stewards say there is a saving of 50 per cent.

KENT'S EAST INDIA COFFEE

is the most healthy beverage known, and is very nutritious. The weak and infirm may use it at all times with impunity. The wife of the Rev. W. Evans, local minister of the M. E. Church, Jersey City, who has written the M. E. Church Coffee for fifteen years, can use

MARCH, 1864.

New Goods!

CAMPAIGN OPENED

At No. 2 Darrow Block!

The subscriber has received, and is receiving almost daily, large additions to his stock of

Clothing and Furnishing Goods,

making his assortment the largest and most complete of any in Vermont, and will be sold for cash at a very small advance from cost.

BLACK TROCK COATS,

Fancy Cassimere Frocks and Sacks

Of the latest style and finish.

Black Doe Pants,

Fancy light colored, and dark

CASSIMERE PANTS,

And VESTS to match.

SPRING OVER SACKS,

RUBBER COATS.

Linens and Fancy Bosom SHIRTS, Flannel SHIRTS, of great variety; GLOVES, COLLARS, TIES, SCARVES, STOCKS, SUSPENDERS, HATS, CAPS, UMBRELLAS, &c., &c.

REMEMBER THE PLACE, No. 2 Darrow Block, St. Albans, Vermont.

W. N. SMITH, 1-ly

TAKE NOTICE, ALL THOSE DESIRING

PERFECT "FITS."

The subscriber presents his grateful acknowledgments for the liberal patronage with which he has been favored for the last fifteen years, and invites a continuance of the same. He still keeps his shop over James Saxe's store, and gives special attention to

CUSTOM WORK.

His Garments are made in the most

SUBSTANTIAL AND FASHIONABLE MANNER;

and being an experienced Cutter and Workman, he is able to guarantee satisfaction to all who may favor him with their orders.

MICHAEL DISCROLL, St. Albans, March 18, 1864.

ST. ALBANS MUSIC STORE.

Where every variety of Musical Instruments can be found. Pianos from five dollars up to \$1000; Violins, Violas, Cellos, &c.; Harmonicas, &c.; and every variety of Musical Instruments, at the lowest prices.

Also, a large stock of Sheet Music, and every variety of Musical Instruments, at the lowest prices.

Small Instruments of every kind, Sheet Music and Musical Boxes, Card Photographs and Pictures, at the lowest prices.

SEWING MACHINES

from five different manufacturers. SINGERS' is the best machine manufactured; fully warranted in every respect; lock stitch, like on both sides.

Also, a large stock of Sewing Machines, at the lowest prices.

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MCGOWAN BROTHERS.

1 Doors North of the American House.

ST. ALBANS, VT.

Keeps constantly on hand

PUMPS,

LEAD PIPE,

ZINC,

TIN AND COPPER WARES, &c.

De Laines, Challies, Poplins,

De Bages, Wool De Laines,

Mourning Dress Goods, both figured and plain Alpaca, Ginghams, Lawns, Chambrays, Prints, Shirtings, Stripes, Denims, Ticks, &c., &c., &c.

BEST

KEROSENE OIL.

OF THE

FIRST CLASS STOVES

WE HAVE THE

Home Comfort,

Troy Capital,

Rip Rap,

King and Prince,

Morning Glory,

&c., &c., &c.

OLD PUMPS, LEAD PIPE, BRASS, COPPER, and TIN WARES.

Repaired at short notice, and prices made satisfactory.

To those having **COAL** or **WOOD** FURNACES, we would say that we have engaged the services of one of the most experienced workmen in this State.

Furnaces set, Pipes put up and Old Furnaces cleaned and made to operate as well as new.

Iron, Lead, or Zinc Pipes, laid and warranted.

CASH paid for 5,000 Dairy Skins—Pates on, well salted, free from cuts, and dry.

MCGOWAN BROTHERS, 1-ly

March 17, 1864.

DR. MARSHALL'S

HEADACHE AND CATARRH SNUFF.

This Snuff has thoroughly proved itself to be the best article ever known for curing the Catarrh, Cold in the Head, and Headache. It has been found an excellent remedy in many cases of **Sore Eyes**. Deafness has been removed by its use, and Hearing has often been greatly improved by its use. It opens and purges out all obstructions, strengthens the delicate membrane, and gives a healthy action to the parts affected. It is recommended by many of the best physicians and is used with great success and satisfaction everywhere.

More than thirty years' experience has proved its great value; and at this moment it stands higher than ever before.

Sold by all Druggists.

WORCESTER'S ROYAL QUARTO

DICTIONARY.

THE BEST DICTIONARY EXTANT.

This massive volume contains one thousand eight hundred and fifty-four pages. It is illustrated by more than one thousand wood cuts; five thousand words are accurately synonymized; the many tables of proper names pronounced; are very full and accurate. Dr. Worcester's Quarto Dictionary is a standard authority among authors and literary men; wherever the English language is used, it will long have reason to respect your name, and to be grateful to you.

From Rev. W. WHELETT, D. D., Master of Trinity College, Hartford, Conn., Author of "History of the Indefinite Science."

I have repeatedly consulted the Dictionary since it has been in my possession, and have seen reason to think it more complete and exact than any of its predecessors.

From Rev. J. J. BOWEN, D. D., F. R. S., Professor of Anglo Saxon in Oxford University, England.

This work is the most comprehensive and useful I have yet seen. It is the most complete and practical, the very best, as well as the cheapest, English Dictionary that I know.

From C. C. FLETCHER, LL. D., late President of Harvard College.

I find it not only rich beyond example in its vocabulary, but carefully elaborated in all its details, and thoroughly trustworthy as a guide to the most correct and elegant usage of the language.

NEW GOODS

AT

MARVIN'S!

We have just received from market a fresh supply of Dry Goods, consisting in part of

FANCY DRESS GOODS

De Laines, Challies, Poplins,

De Bages, Wool De Laines,

Mourning Dress Goods, both figured and plain Alpaca, Ginghams, Lawns, Chambrays, Prints, Shirtings, Stripes, Denims, Ticks, &c., &c., &c.

SHAWLS,

San Umbrellas, Balmoral Shirts, Hop Shirts, Bonnet Ribbons, Trimming Ribbons, Taffeta and Satin Ribbons, black and fancy Velvet Ribbons, a choice lot of

Black and Bonnet Silks, Ringle Trimmings, Trimming Buttons, Yankee Notions, Gloves and Hosiery, Bonnets, Millinery Goods, Cloakings, Cloths, Coat, Vest, and Pant Trimmings, Umbrellas, &c., &c.

Also, have received a full supply of

CHOICE GROCERIES,

Such as Brown, Coffee, Crushed and Granulated Sugars; Tea, Coffee, Tobacco—fine cut, plug, and smoking; Rice, Spices, Ginger, Pepper, Cloves, Nutmegs, Starch, Saleratus, Mustard, and a superior quality of

SYRUP.

Brooms, Matches, &c., &c.

All the articles above enumerated are offered for sale at the lowest cash prices.

Please call at our NEW LOCATION, at the Store formerly occupied by S. A. W. W. Gann, corner.

St. Albans, March 28, 1864.

MARVIN.

3-ly

THE TRANSCRIPT OFFICE, is located

over the Store of Messrs